

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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No. 8

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AND PARENT- TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS' AMERICAN TOUR 1915

RALPH E. TOWLE, TOUR MANAGER,

31 TRINITY PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations has arranged a very interesting tour en route to the annual convention in Portland, Oregon, and the conference in San Francisco, May 20.

A two-day conference in St. Paul, Minn., will call together the many groups in that state who are ready to have a state branch.

North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana are enthusiastic in their desire to welcome the Congress, and conferences are planned in these states with the purpose of effecting organization of State branches in each state. The tour will start from the extreme east, viz., Boston. Members and friends will join the party at the most convenient points along the route, and the rate will be, of course, higher from Boston than from other points. The price of ticket from Boston to San Francisco and return is \$294, including first class ticket, standard Pullman sleeping cars, meals on dining cars, hotel accommodations on the American plan, basis of two persons in a room without private bath, transfers between station and hotel, excursions and entrance fees to Panama-Pacific Exposition, one week in San Francisco, excursions to Mt. Tamalpais, the Key Route trip to visit Berkeley, Oakland, and Alameda.

In Portland an excursion up the Columbia River and a day trip by Shasta route from Portland to San Francisco.

The trip from Chicago to San Francisco May 17 to May 24 with direct return rail ticket only to Chicago \$237.

A side trip from San Francisco to Yosemite Valley can be arranged for those desiring to go, at a moderate cost.

The tickets are good to return until Oct. 31. A choice of routes will be given and, provided at least twenty persons choose the same route, a personal conductor will be provided.

Return Route A—via Santa Barbara, Los Angeles two days, the Grand Canyon, Chicago, Boston, taking eleven days for return trip—\$98.50.

Return Route B—via Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Diego, Salt Lake City, Colorado Springs, Denver, Chicago, and Boston—\$114.50.

Return Route C—via Western Pacific, Salt Lake City, Colorado Springs, Denver, Chicago—\$74.75.

Those who desire to spend the summer in California can have their tickets arranged to return by any route desired, but the cost via Canadian Rockies is greater than by the other routes.

May is the most beautiful season to visit the Exposition in San Francisco before the crowds of summer.

Everything will be done for the comfort and pleasure of those who join this tour, and it is hoped that all members of the Congress will avail themselves of an unusual opportunity to see many of the beauties of our great country, and to meet many delightful co-workers in every stopping place. Each Parent-Teacher Association or Mothers Circle should make a special effort to extend the invitation to all members and friends. This can be done by having this, and following notices copied in local papers and by appointing a special committee to arrange for a local party from each town. For Southern members arrangements can be made to join the tour in Chicago or at points farther west.

Full particulars and circulars can be obtained by writing to Mr. Ralph E. Towle, Tour Manager, 31 Trinity Place, Boston, Mass.

THE dates of the conferences arranged by the National Congress of Mothers are as follows:

Chicago.....	May	1-2
St. Paul.....	May	3-4
Huron, S. Dakota.....	May	3
Bismarck, N. Dakota.....	May	5-6
Butte, Montana.....	May	7-8
Helena, Montana.....	May	9
Seattle.....	May	11
Portland.....	May	12-16
San Francisco.....	May	20

The tour to the Pacific coast for those residing east of the Mississippi river is in charge of Bureau of University Travel, 31 Trinity Place, Boston, Mass.

Those desiring to join the party can secure full information by writing to the Bureau.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AND PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS,
ANNUAL CHILD-WELFARE CONFERENCE, PORTLAND, OREGON,
MAY 12-16. HOTEL BENSON, HEADQUARTERS.

MRS. J. ELLIOTT KING, *Chairman*, Local Committee of Arrangements, Portland, Oregon.

Child-Welfare Conference and Organization of State Branch, Bismarck, N. Dakota, May 5-6.

Mrs. Rudolph Acher, *Chairman*, State Committee of Arrangements, Valley City.

A conference in Butte, May 7, preliminary to State organization.

Helena, Montana, May 8-9, Child-Welfare Conference and Organization of State Branch.

San Francisco, California, Child-Welfare Conference, National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, May 20.

Mrs. Hubert N. Rowell, 3158 College Ave., Berkeley, *Chairman*, Committee of Arrangements.

National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers Association. Annual Convention, Portland, Oregon, May 12-16. Itinerary

April 29	Boston	Leave in the afternoon. Boston and Albany R. R.
April 30	Niagara Falls	Train stops for a few minutes at the Falls.
April 30	Chicago	Arrive in the late evening.
May 1	Chicago	Headquarters Sherman House.
May 2	Chicago	Leave in the evening. Standard Pullman sleeper.
May 3	St. Paul	Arrive in the morning. Headquarters Hotel St. Paul. Two days
May 4	St. Paul	conferences.
May 5	Bismarck	Arrive in the forenoon. Headquarters Hotel Grand Pacific.
May 6	Bismarck	A day here for conference.
May 7	Butte	Arrive in the evening. Headquarters the Butte Hotel. Two days
May 7	Butte	conference here.
May 8	Helena	Arrive in the evening. Headquarters Grandon Hotel. One day
May 9	Helena	conference.
May 10	Helena	
May 11	Seattle	Arrive in the morning. Headquarters Hotel Butler. One day
		conference.
May 12	Portland	Arrive in the morning.
May 13	Portland	Official headquarters Hotel Benson.
May 14	Portland	National Conference.
May 15	Portland	Excursion on the Columbia River.
May 16	En Route	To San Francisco via the Shasta Route.
May 17	San Francisco	Arrive in the evening. One week in San Francisco. Excursion to
May 18	San Francisco	Mt. Tamalpais. Key Route trip to Berkeley, Alameda and
May 19	San Francisco	Oakland. Four admissions to the Exposition. Sight-seeing
May 20-24	San Francisco	auto trip about the city. Leave San Francisco.

Prices

From Boston April 29 to San Francisco May 24. With direct return rail ticket only, to Boston, \$294.

From Chicago May 2 to San Francisco May 24. With direct return rail ticket only, to Chicago, \$237.

The price includes standard Pullman Car berth, half section; hotel accommodations on the American plan, basis of two persons in a room, except in San Francisco, where only room and breakfast are furnished; usual tips on Pullman cars and at hotels; transfers between railway stations and hotels; excursions and entrance fees as mentioned in the itinerary; the usual baggage allowance of 150 pounds; services of a conductor in charge of the party. Meals on train are a la carte and are paid for by the individual, which is the most satisfactory system. Compartments and drawing rooms at additional charge; rooms with private bath at hotels can be arranged at extra cost.

To reserve accommodations and a place in the party a deposit of \$10 is required. Send remittance and address all communications respecting details to the BUREAU OF UNIVERSITY TRAVEL, 31 Trinity Place, Boston, Mass.

Return Routes

Return Route A.

May 24	San Francisco	Leave in the evening.
May 25	Santa Barbara	Visit the Mission.
May 26	Los Angeles	Hotel Headquarters Hotel Clark.
May 27	Los Angeles	Sight-seeing drive about the city.
May 28	San Diego	Headquarters U. S. Grant Hotel.
May 29	San Diego	Two visits to the California-Panama Exposition. Sight-seeing
		auto drive about the city.
May 30	Grand Canyon	Headquarters at El Tovar Hotel.
May 31	Grand Canyon	Opportunity for descent into the Canyon.
June 1	En Route	Across the great plains of Colorado and New Mexico.

June 2 En Route	Across the prairies of Kansas.
June 3 Chicago	Arrive in the morning.
June 4 Boston	
Price in connection with outward round trip ticket from Boston.....\$98	
Price to Chicago June 3 in connection with outward round trip ticket from Chicago... 92	

Return Route B.

May 24 San Francisco	Leave in the evening.
May 25 Santa Barbara	Visit the Mission.
May 26 Los Angeles	Hotel headquarters Hotel Clark.
May 27 Los Angeles	Sight-seeing drive about the city.
May 28 San Diego	Headquarters U. S. Grant Hotel.
May 29 San Diego	Two visits to the Panama-California Exposition. Sight-seeing auto drive about the city.
May 30 En Route	Across Nevada and Utah.
May 31 Salt Lake City	Sight-seeing auto drive about the city.
June 1 Royal Gorge	Cleft through the spine of the continent.
June 3 Colorado Springs	Visit to the Garden of the Gods.
June 4 Denver	Sight-seeing auto drive about the city.
June 5 En Route	Across the Prairies, the world's richest agricultural region.
June 6 Chicago	Arrive in the morning.
June 7 Boston	
Price in connection with outward round trip ticket from Boston.....\$114	
Price to Chicago June 6 in connection with outward round trip ticket from Chicago. 108	

Return Route C.

May 24 San Francisco	Leave in the evening.
May 25 En Route	Across Nevada.
May 26 Salt Lake City	Sight-seeing auto drive about the city.
May 27 Royal Gorge	Cleft through the spine of the continent.
May 28 Colorado Springs	Drive to the Garden of the Gods.
May 29 Denver	Sight-seeing auto drive about the city.
May 30 En Route	Across the Prairies, the world's richest agricultural region.
May 31 Chicago	Arrive in the morning.
June 1 Boston	
Price in connection with outward round trip ticket from Boston.....\$ 74	
Price to Chicago May 31 in connection with outward round trip from Chicago..... 68	

Other returns including Canadian Rockies will be arranged for individuals on request, but choice must be made before outward ticket is purchased. Conductor can be provided with party only if there be 25 or more members.

(From National Education Association Bulletin, Department of Superintendence.)

National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Cincinnati, Ohio

President—Mrs. Frederic Schoff, Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary—Mrs. Arthur A. Birney, Washington, D. C.

SESSIONS IN BALLROOM,
SINTON HOTEL

Wednesday Afternoon, February 24,
2:00 o'clock

Joint Conference with the Home
Education Division of the Bureau
of Education and Ohio
Superintendents

An Explanation of the Work of the
Home Education Division; P. P.

Claxton, United States Commis-
sioner of Education, Washington,
D. C.

Parent - Teacher Associations as
Schools of Homemaking and Child
Nurture for Parents; Mrs. Frederic
Schoff, Philadelphia, Pa.

Parents' Educational Work for Chil-
dren under Age; Lucy Wheelock,
Principal, Kindergarten Training
School, Boston, Mass.

* Parent-Teacher Associations as Helpers to Schools; William P. Evans, Former State Superintendent of Public Schools, Jefferson City, Mo. Extension of Home Education in Ohio; P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. J. A. Smith, President, Ohio Branch of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Cleveland, Ohio; Frank W. Miller, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Columbus, Ohio. Methods of Organization of Parent-Teacher Associations; Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, President, Massachusetts Branch of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Worcester, Mass. Home Economics for Parents; Margaret J. Stannard, Chairman, Home Economic Department, National

Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Boston, Mass.

*Thursday Forenoon, February 25,
9:00 o'clock*

Topic: Helping the Children Who Are Wayward

An Experiment with Wayward Boys in Boston by Mr. Menard; Ellor Carlisle Ripley, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Boston, Mass.

Where Parents Fail; Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, President, Illinois Branch of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Chicago, Ill.

Relation of Mother's Pensions to Truancy; I. I. Cammack, Superintendent of Schools, Kansas City, Mo.

Discussion

The President's Desk

Under the auspices of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations and through the state branches twenty-one conferences on Child Welfare have been and will be held within the spring months.

Twenty-one Conferences on the Welfare of the Child

The influence of these conferences is far reaching, educating mothers and fathers to a keener, clearer sense of their great privilege in guiding the children, winning enthusiastic coöperation of teachers and all interested in children.

The Tennessee Congress of Mothers in Jackson was successful in securing the interest and attendance of many men and women—attracted by the work accomplished, and planned. Many Nashville and Knoxville teachers were given leave of absence to attend the Congress in Jackson, an evidence of the value placed on the work by educators.

The numbers of mothers from rural districts, and their wideawake interest in the measures discussed show that in Tennessee the Congress covers country as well as city. The Tennessee Congress voted to extend an invitation to the National Congress to hold its 1916 convention in Nashville.

It also voted to send its State President to the National conventions, beginning with the 1915 convention in Portland.

The bill for Mother's Pensions has been introduced by the Congress with every prospect of its passage. Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, of Nashville, was unanimously reelected as President of the Tennessee Branch.

The hospitable homes of Jackson were opened for the entertainment of all visiting delegates.

"I want to know how many mothers in this audience have never told their boys a lie" was the startling question propounded by a country mother at the Tennessee Congress of Mothers which met in Jackson in March. The

earnestness with which she pleaded the need for truth in every answer to children's questions, followed by her impassioned plea for modesty among the girls of today, struck an answering chord in every heart, and fixed the attention of every mother on the practical questions of everyday life with children and how to meet them.

Sincerity and genuineness are qualities which count for more than all else in character; this mother had learned that to build those qualities into the lives of her children the mother must herself be true and sincere in all her dealings with her children.

To be what one seems should be the ideal of every one. Sincerity and truth are basic principles which are woven into life, where children grow up with parents who are themselves sincere and genuine. To be trustworthy is essential to moral growth.

How many mothers have never told a lie to their children?

A practical plan for teaching thrift to school children is being used in schools of Springfield, Illinois, by the System Bank way.

Hon. P. P. Claxton, Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C., recently said:

Teach the Children How to Earn and Save

"Much hope for the future is in the fact that our schools are beginning to understand that the knowledge obtained from books does not make up the whole of the education of the child, and that education must be as broad as life. There is great need now for the inculcation of the principles of thrift among the children in our public schools. In order to get the best out of life, Americans for the next generation, and the next, must learn how to save wisely."

In describing how the plan may be put into action the approval of the school is necessary—the approval of the banker and his willingness to coöperate with the schools. Parents may interest boards of education and bankers in this valuable phase of development. The advantages to the child are tremendous.

The first thought and impulse of the child after he has entered the spirit of the plan is self restraint—self denial. He courageously determines to spend less of his pennies and nickels and dimes for useless, needless things. He takes to heart the lessons and examples pointed out by the teacher, left by great men who practiced restraint—and thrift. He sees why they were big men and tries to follow in his little way their high ideals.

Develops Self-Respect.—And the self-respect of the boy or girl who earns and saves is increased mightily.

How proud the child feels, who has a growing bank account in one of the large banks of the town, and knows that his own efforts are responsible for the steadily increasing column of deposits!

A marked incentive to *earning* is naturally associated with the child's desire to save. Determined efforts are therefore put forth to earn money in his spare hours after school and during vacation.

This admirable trait, fostered by home and school develops in the boy or girl an important essential of business success. The child is thus brought to know something of the value of money—and that the only way to get it is to work for it.

The "easy come, easy go" bubble is punctured by the child's experience in earning and practice of saving.

A penny a week makes the child a saver and shows him how quickly pennies accumulate into nickels and dimes. In its last analysis, it is the forming of the *saving* habit that is vital—all important, no matter how large or small the amount saved.

The seed of thrift is planted in fertile soil when the child learns and likes to save—and the harvest is a life-long habit of economy.

Waste and extravagance need not be the cardinal sin of this country. The rising generation may be taught the advantages of saving—of self restraint, of self denial, of prudence, of industry, of thrift—and when the children of today become the men and women of tomorrow, the training and the habits of their youth will tell. Then, the wastefulness and extravagance of today will be succeeded by an era of prudent, sane, balanced, efficient living.

Those who wish to learn more of the practical working of this plan may secure the information by addressing The Registered Tracer System, Springfield, Illinois.

Senator Oliver of Pennsylvania states that "during the five years ending with 1913 62,014 statutes were unloaded on the American people. As a result of this, a great majority of people are living under laws of whose existence they are ignorant. Our legislatures are constantly creating new crimes. Nearly every one of the statutes authorizes penalties of imprisonment for acts which are neither immoral nor intrinsically wrong, and a wise policy would dictate that the category of offenses to which the stigma of imprisonment is affixed should be reduced to the lowest limit instead of being constantly enlarged."

No one who realizes the fearful handicap placed on anyone who has served a prison sentence can fail to deplore the multiplication of laws whose violation is punishable in that way. It is little wonder prisons cannot hold those committed to them. Every new law involves the necessity for new officials, and year by year freedom is restricted more and more. All these things add to the cost of living, but what they add to the lowering of individual initiative and the moral tone of the community has yet to be calculated. The ten commandments embody God's law's of life. Man's laws are too many for any one individual to even grasp them. Isn't it time that a halt should be called on legislation that seeks to regulate everything?

Over three thousand men and women interested in the education of children met in Cincinnati, February 22-27. The conference held by the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations attracted over a thousand people, and many were turned away unable to enter because the large ball room of Hotel Sinton was filled to its greatest capacity. Commissioner Claxton presided. There was full discussion of the subjects on the program, and everyone present went away with a clear idea of the practical necessity for education in home-making and child-nurture and with specific knowledge of the ways in which he might cooperate in extension of opportunities for study of these subjects outside of schools.

Other important features of the convention were the sessions devoted to the standardization of the kindergarten as part of the school system presided over by Miss Lucy Wheelock, and the International Kindergarten Union dinner—which brought together the great leaders of kindergarten work in the United States. The School Peace League dinner gave the opportunity to discuss the methods of developing peace during school life.

Training of children to regard as heroes those who have served their country in other ways than in battle, it is hoped, may have an influence in ending war.

History, so long a story of revolutions and wars, may be written to include the great things which have marked progress in many other ways.

Cincinnati has always been noted for its Music Hall and for its great love of music. A rich treat was given to an audience that filled every seat in the

large Music Hall. The May Festival Chorus, the chorus of seven hundred children from the public schools, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and the Great Organ, made a wonderful musical combination.

"A Festal Day" by Keurvels, a children's chorus and orchestra, were given for the first time in America. The wonderful musical opportunities given to Cincinnati children in the public schools made one wish every child might have have advantages in musical training as Cincinnati gives.

Selections from Wagner and from the Oratorios, from Bach, Schubert, Mendelssohn, and Brahms were given by the May Festival and Children's Chorus, Leader's Chorus, orchestra and organ.

It almost seemed as though angelic choirs were singing and that one could look beyond the veil and hear the heavenly choirs.

The Home Garden: Its Economic Value and Its Relation to the School in Towns and Cities

The home garden as an adjunct to the school is not a new idea. Its significance as a social, an educational, and an industrial factor, however, is just beginning to be appreciated. In most cities there are hundreds of acres of land in the form of back yards and vacant lots that might profitably be used for the production of vegetables, fruits, and flowers. In these same cities there are thousands of boys and girls who, with proper guidance, would be willing to utilize this non-productive land. Furthermore, these same cities are importing yearly thousands of dollars' worth of vegetables, fruits, and flowers, that might be raised within their borders, and much of the money that is sent to distant parts in payment for these products might be kept at home.

Industrial Possibilities.—The earnings from these garden activities represents clear gain, for neither the land nor the labor would otherwise be utilized. To put the proposition in a more concrete form, let us consider the possibilities in the city of Washington, a city of 331,069 inhabitants. The Thirteenth Census Report shows that there are somewhat over 50,000 pupils in school between the ages of six and twenty years. Assuming that one tenth of this number, or 5,000 pupils, should carry on garden work and that they should make an average profit of \$10, the result would be a

total profit of \$50,000. This is a very conservative estimate, both from the standpoint of the possible number of pupils who may undertake the work and from the standpoint of the possible earnings. Many city-school pupils have made from \$1 to \$200 from their gardens. With proper direction a large number of pupils in each school should be able to earn at least \$100.

A Garden Survey.—In order that the various municipalities may determine for themselves the local possibilities, the Bureau of Education has prepared a suggestive outline for making surveys. A survey of even one or two school districts of a city may reveal amazing possibilities.

The survey outline calls for information on the following points: Number of children in each home between the ages of nine and sixteen years; number of boys; number of girls; occupation of those children during the previous summer; income from their work; amount of land available; estimate of the value of the products that may be grown; character of soil; amount of garden work being done; who cares for the garden; opportunities for raising fruit, etc. A supply of these forms will be furnished upon request with the understanding that the bureau should be supplied with a summary of the results.

In so far as facilities permit, the

bureau specialists personally will make a number of surveys in representative areas, and will assist local organizations in instigating the work in any section. They will also suggest plans for garden enterprises based upon either a general or detailed survey.

The Plan.—In general the bureau's recommendation to schools regarding home-garden work is to engage in each graded school one teacher who is prepared by training and experience to take charge of the garden work for the whole school. Such teacher should be engaged for twelve months and with the understanding that she should devote the regular number of hours to teaching the usual school subjects, and that the garden work should be done after school hours, on Saturdays and holidays, and during the summer vacation. (Arrangements may be made for a short vacation during the winter.) The gardening teacher would be the logical person to teach such subjects as nature-study, elementary science, agriculture, and hygiene. Such a teacher will demand and should be paid a higher salary than the regular teachers. The work later may require the services of a special gardener to supplement the efforts of the teacher.

The above plan in no way interferes with the regular school programme, and the only additional expense necessary will be the difference in salary between a regular teacher, employed for the regular school term, and a special teacher, employed for a full year. This item of expense, from the monetary standpoint alone, is insignificant compared with the results.

The Duties of the Supervising Teacher.—The teacher should assist the pupils by way of securing suitable land for gardens and should advise them with regard to the size of gardens, keeping in mind the experience and capabilities of the individual pupils. In a great many instances back-yard gardens will be unavailable, and the teacher will need to arrange for the use of vacant lots. The vacant lots should be leased for

at least one whole season and a nominal rent paid to legalize the agreement. In other cases it will be necessary to go to the suburbs and lease one or more tracts of land which may be divided among the pupils. (In some places trolley companies have given reduced rates, or free transportation, to city pupils who conduct gardens in the suburbs.) Under such conditions it is well to organize the pupils in a sort of coöperative club, so that they may join in paying the expenses connected with the rent of the land, plowing, fertilizers, seeds, etc., and in the marketing of their products. Some clubs of this kind have borrowed enough money from public-spirited citizens to pay for the initial expenses. This amount may be retained from year to year as a working fund and each gardener charged with his share of the interest on the investment. The garden enterprise, in whatever form, should be conducted on a business basis. The teacher should also instruct the pupils regarding the preparation of the land, planting, cultivating, harvesting, and marketing. A small piece of land on or near the school grounds is very useful for the purpose of demonstrating methods. It should be regarded, however, as a laboratory rather than a business garden. A pamphlet giving practical garden directions is under preparation and will be sent to all teachers interested in garden work.

Opportunities in Canning.—The teacher will find that in most sections there is a great opportunity in the canning of fruits and vegetables, and she should be prepared to instruct the pupils, especially the girls, in the cold-pack method of canning, both in tin and glass jars. This is not a difficult operation and any ten-year-old pupil may become proficient in the work after one or two demonstrations. A pamphlet for the use of teachers and dealing with the subject of canning is under preparation.

The Garden Age.—The first and second grade children are as a rule too young to conduct home gardens

on a business' basis. They may be encouraged, however, to grow some flowers at home, or they may be given an opportunity to have a small plot of either flowers or vegetables at school. The school gardens, as commonly conducted, would best be reserved for the smaller pupils, and should in no way take the place of home or vacant-lot gardens for the higher grades.

Most pupils after reaching the age of eight or nine years are capable of carrying on a home-garden project, but there is great danger in their attempting too much. The pupils of the junior and senior high schools should be able to conduct garden enterprises on an extensive and profitable basis. Many boys and girls under favorable conditions should be able to earn enough in this way to give them an opportunity of a high-school training which otherwise would be impossible. This home-garden movement should go a long way toward solving the problem of elimination in our schools.

Rewards for Achievement.—In general the usual pecuniary returns from good gardening should be sufficient incentive to bring out the pupil's best endeavors, but the competitive spirit is so strong in boys and girls that some form of contest is necessary to produce the highest achievements. Such contests satisfy the child's competitive spirit in much the same way as the common school games. The practice of offering money premiums, or expensive prizes, should be discouraged, for the reward in such cases is likely to dominate the achievement. The custom in many schools of offering certain symbols of achievement, such as badges and buttons, is recommended. The plan should make it possible for a number of pupils to win achievement badges, either of uniform or varying grade.

Conclusions.—Home gardens under school supervision are worth while for many reasons, of which the following may be enumerated:

1. They contribute to the income

of the home and enable boys and girls to remain longer in school.

2. They utilize for productive purposes unused land and labor, and thus contribute to the wealth of the community, the state, and the nation.

3. They provide experience for boys and girls in an occupation that may be the means of a livelihood.

4. They provide an exercise that vitalizes school work.

5. They provide an opportunity for a business experience.

6. They stimulate industry by providing school pupils with wholesome employment and incidentally save them from the evils attending idleness.

7. They make it possible for the parents and neighbors to obtain fresh vegetables and fruit, an advantage not usually appreciated.

8. They necessitate the clearing up of back yards and vacant lots, thus contributing to the hygienic and aesthetic conditions and enhancing land values.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF EDUCATION.

SCHOOL AND HOME GARDENING.

With a special appropriation from Congress, the United States Bureau of Education has just begun the work of investigation and promotion of home and school gardens. The new division will be under the direction of a specialist in school gardening and an assistant, both of whom are to be experts in this form of educational activity. Miss Ethel Gowans, a graduate of the New York State College of Agriculture at Ithaca, N. Y., is temporarily in charge of the work.

By means of personal visitation, correspondence, and publications it is the plan of the bureau to coöperate with school boards throughout the United States in school and home-garden work. Investigation has already shown that many cities have made considerable progress in school gardens, but practically no information on the subject is available. The first task of the division will be to supply this information.

Eventually it is hoped that every city school will have a teacher employed twelve months in the year who knows gardening both theoretically and practically. During the school year this teacher will give instruction in nature study, elementary science and gardening in the morning and in the afternoon direct the gardens at the homes of the children. During the summer vacation the teacher will devote all the time to directing the garden work.

The close supervision that such a teacher will be able to give will insure greater success for the gardens and will familiarize the children with the problems of plant production and utilization. By a coöperative method all surplus vegetables and fruits will either be marketed or canned and preserved for sale.

In announcing the new work, Dr. Claxton declares:

"School gardening will develop habits of industry; an appreciation of the value of money as measured in terms of labor; and a realization that every man and woman must make his or her own living, and contribute to the welfare of the community.

"Experiments already have shown that with proper direction an average child can produce in an eighth of an acre of land from \$50 to \$100 worth of vegetables. This would add more to the support of the family than could be purchased with the same child's wages working in factory, shop, or mill.

"If children can contribute to the families' support while in school, it will make it possible for them to attend school three or four years longer than they now do. This is a thing more and more desirable, since education for life and citizenship can not be obtained before the age of fourteen."

These books cover the various occupations of the vegetable garden. They duplicate each other somewhat but in the main reinforce each other.

Garden Books.—First Book in Farming, by Charles Goodrich; Forcing Book, by Bailey; Vegetable Gardening, by Watts; Bush Fruits, by F. W. Cards; Practical Floriculture, by Henderson; The Pruning Book, by Bailey; Injurious Insects, by W. C. O'Kane; Farmers' Bulletins, State Experiment Station Bulletins.

The "Educated" Man

To be educated in the best sense of the word, says an erudite professor in the University of Chicago, who is right, a man must be able to truthfully answer in the affirmative all these questions:

Has education made you public-spirited?

Has it made you a brother to the weak?

Have you learned how to make friends and keep them?

Do you know what it is to be a friend yourself?

Can you look an honest man or a pure woman in the eye?

Do you see anything to love in a little child?

Will a lonely dog follow you in the street?

Can you be high-minded and happy in the meanest drudgeries of life?

Do you think washing dishes and hoeing corn just as compatible with high thinking as pianoplaying and golf?

Are you good for anything yourself?

Can you be happy alone?

Can you look out on the world and see anything except dollars and cents?

Can you look into a mud puddle by the wayside and see a clear sky?

Can you see anything in the puddle but mud?

Can you look into the sky at night and see beyond the stars?

Whosoever replies "yes" to every query in the list, without doing violence to his conscience, is really "educated," whether he has seen the inside of a college or not.

—*Boston Globe.*

Interest Children in The Birds

The model tenant who makes a place more attractive, pays the rent in advance, works continually, and spreads good cheer throughout the neighborhood, has been found at last by *The Farm Journal* Liberty Bell Bird Club members who have been putting up bird-houses this winter.

"If you want to experience the thrilling joy of being a successful and appreciated landlord to a host of grateful and happy renters, put up houses for the feathered folk on your premises and be a friend to the birds," urges this Club.



BROWN THRASHER. Reduced from large four-color illustrations of the Audubon Society bird pictures.

WINTER FEEDING HOUSE USED AS A SUMMER COTTAGE BY THE BIRDS.

It cautions us, however, before erecting bird homes to find out just what feathered prospects frequent our communities and how many occupants we can comfortably accommodate.

Then it advises a careful study of the location, for bird tenants, mind you, have as decided notions about where they want to live as do human house-hunters, and if you want your bird-houses occupied you will have to put them where the birds prefer to stay.

The sociable martins will consent to be close, but not too near neighbors to your own dwelling. Bluebirds like broad acres of orchard or pastures. Thrashers and catbirds desire the seclusion of shrubbery, while the robin likes wild, rustic scenery. Swallows are partial to good views and like open stretches of country, while song-sparrows will condescend to weedy swales and brush fences. Birds of a feather do not always flock together, and strangers of the winged tribes will live close together more peaceably than do relatives.

When it comes to the kind of a house to build you must study the individual tastes of the most desirable class of tenants. The martins like a modern apartment sky-scraper in the north, though they have been known to use many gourds strung together on a high pole as summer cottages in the south. Mrs. Wren, who demands a separate establishment far removed from prying neighbors, will occupy a single gourd home or a tomato-can hacienda if placed in the shade. She has been known to appropriate a sprinkling can or mail-box in which to rear her young. The log-cabin made from a natural or artificially hollowed log is preferred by the flickers and nuthatches; Mr. Robin and Miss Phoebe go in for open sleeping porches, and with the bluebirds, are partial to good-sized roof-gardens where they can take frequent outings and airings.

One thing is imperative, all houses to rent, if they have been occupied before, must be thoroughly cleaned

and fumigated before offered to other tenants. The first families among the feathered folk prefer old, grey, lichen-covered mansions, so it is best to erect the new imitations in winter so they can become weather-stained. All houses should have the opening turned away from prevailing cold winds, and the posts or poles on which they rest should be sheathed with tin or galvanized iron to prevent cats from climbing up and wrecking the happy homes.

If you want the added joy of *building* your houses to rent, Uncle Sam will furnish your specifications and The Liberty Bell Bird Club has an educational pamphlet on how to build bird-houses. Those who can't build can buy, and no place is too small for at least one bird home.

It will give you a new interest in life to help shelter the little wanderers that are being driven from their natural homes and destroyed by their enemies, and you will be doing a great service to human beings at the same time.

Help save those who cannot protect themselves by sending in your name as a member of The Liberty Bell Bird Club. There is no cost in belonging to this Club. Its badge-button will be sent free of charge when you sign and send in the following pledge:

"I desire to become a member of The Liberty Bell Bird Club of *The Farm Journal* and I promise to study and protect all song and insectivorous birds and do what I can for the Club."

Community Welfare Promoted by Some Schools

WHAT ONE SCHOOL DID FOR THE COMMUNITY

Eight years ago we discovered there was a lack of good reading material in most of the homes of the pupils. We subscribed to six or eight of the leading magazines, and these we used in our school work and went the round of the homes as well. A lecture course was given by the high school, the proceeds of which went to buy books for the school library. Since that

time some of the finest talent on the American platform has appeared on our programmes, the high school having kept up the course each winter.

A piano was bought and the public is always invited to be present at the entertainments given by the high school. We have no auditorium; most of our social affairs must be held at the opera house. Money was raised to improve our school grounds. We had gazed at ash piles and cinder

yards year after year until we were sick at heart hoping that something would be done to remove the eyesore, but all in vain. When agriculture was introduced into the high school we thought the time had come to do something. There was no room for school gardens, but there was plenty of work to be done on the school grounds. The first class in agriculture began the work. The teachers and the rest of the school took it up and continued it; over \$230 had been expended on the grounds and a foundation laid for future work; the result is we no longer gaze on ash piles and cinder yards.

We have a Home Garden Club in the school through which we reach the home and have been very successful in bringing about better home surroundings and establishing a better civic spirit than has heretofore existed. We do much extension work among the rural schools of this district and nearly all this work looks towards home improvement and the making of the home more attractive to boys and girls.

We have done nothing of an original nature unless it be the interesting of the home though the children in the possibility of making them attractive through the medium of flowers, especially Dutch bulbs. We have bought these bulbs by the hundreds and sold them at cost to the children. We stimulated interest in this work by getting the children acquainted with the possibilities of the Dutch bulb by having every child in school plant one last year. Some of the rooms were beautiful in the variety and coloring

of the flowers and great interest was manifested. I believe that this is one of the best things that we have done, as the flowers have made the life of the family happier and the home more attractive.

The Augusta High School in Wisconsin has a Home Project work which is proving very helpful to the homes. The boys and girls are requested to do the following pieces of work, and the schools give credit.

PROJECTS FOR BOYS

Frame a pair of rafters. Test milk from a herd of cows. Make a gate. Make a three-horse eveners. Draw plans for a modern barn. Make a door frame. Make a window frame. Make a handsled. Make a frame for a grindstone. Make a feeding rack. Make a garden. Make a lawn seat. Make a chair. Make a wagon box. Make a hayrack. Make a tread power. Make a mission lamp. Make a plot of school grounds and buildings to scale. Make repairs on pieces of furniture. Sharpen tools. Make a hose reel. Make a letter file. Operate and adjust a gasoline engine. Make a waste basket. Make a plate rack. Survey a piece of low land for drainage system.

PROJECTS FOR GIRLS

Build fires for a week. Bake three loaves of bread. Make pancakes ten times. Plan and get five meals. Darn ten pairs of stockings. Make a shirtwaist. Test butter for per cent. of moisture. Make a garden. Make butter. Do three ironings. Stencil and make a pair of curtains.

Mothers' Assistance in Philadelphia

By IDA D. GILPIN

The organization of the trustees in Philadelphia County was accomplished on October 14, 1913. Delays in arrangements of details with the auditor general of the state brought us to February before the first payment of state assistance was made to a mother.

Since the law allows a wide margin of discretion to the trustees we adopted this general principle in its application:

That state aid should be given women who are competent to serve the state successfully as its agents in charge of young families which, in the

absence of a natural bread-winner, the state is in whole or part feeding, clothing and sheltering. That not only relief of abject need but the production of useful citizens is the purpose of the Mothers' Assistance Fund.

Under this principle our preferred cases have been:—

1. Widows who have proved themselves able to handle their family situation fairly well except for the money factor.
2. Desertion cases only where circumstances assure permanence of condition.
3. Wives of insane men only when there is practically no hope of the husband's recovery.

That is to say, the permanent elimination of the husband from the family life is a condition of eligibility for the applicant. No applicant with one child only was considered.

The total number of applicants registered is.....	1,358
Of these there have been dismissed as unsuitable and ineligible under the terms of the law.....	295
Women with one child only.....	147
Not yet reached in course of investigation.....	788
(The amount of money available for the payment of investigators is limited under the terms of the law.)	
Beneficiaries now receiving aid.....	128
Of the beneficiaries:	
118 are widows	
6 are deserted wives	
4 are the wives of insane men	
128	

There are 561 children affected; the total number of dependent children in the aided families (*i. e.*, children below working age being 497). The average number of children per family is 4.38; the average number of dependent children is 3.88 per family; the largest family aided has 8 dependent children. There are 18 families containing 2 children each.

The average monthly grant per family is \$24.74. Two families receive \$41.00 per month, the largest grant; while 11 families receive \$12.00 per month.

In bulk the following sums have been paid to families month by month.

February.....	\$ 26
March.....	1,420
April.....	1,639
May.....	1,986
June.....	2,384
July.....	2,989
August.....	3,167
September.....	3,167
Total.....	16,778

The limit of aid which can be granted under the appropriation of 1913 has been reached except for very small amounts which will become available through changes in the status of families now aided. These represent 9½ per cent. of the total number of applicants to date. Allowing generously for the percentage of ineligible which may be expected it is at once evident that an appropriation at least three times as large as that of 1913 is desirable in Philadelphia County if the benevolent purpose of the Mothers' Assistance Act is to be accomplished in a manner which shall be satisfactory as to completeness.

In addition to careful investigation of each family for which aid is granted to the mother the trustees have assumed a certain supervision of the mother's administration of the grant, acting as friend and adviser, often to the great comfort and advantage of the burdened woman.

This we consider more valuable aid than direct money aid, and it is certainly much more difficult to give.

We give an amount, which in addition to any other income which the family may earn or receive, will put them on a decent living basis, and we feel that the duty of seeing that the money is judiciously spent, devolves upon us.

The supervision and constructive work are what will tell in the end.

Every family must be visited at least once a month, and in many cases more frequent visits are necessary.

If the home is unsanitary, or the neighborhood makes proper care of the children impossible, we find suitable quarters, always with the

mother's consent and coöperation and move the family. If teeth need attention, we see that they have it; the same with the eyes, or any physical defect.

A sad fact has been strongly impressed upon us during our work with these poor, overworked mothers—the women break in health and spirits, and the children owing to lack of proper nourishment, and crowded and ill-ventilated rooms develop tuberculosis to an alarming degree. In such cases we see that nourishing food is procured, and that the child has the medical care needed to arrest the disease and guard against all danger of infection.

When these overworked women are relieved of the constant anxiety about money and feel that their rent and sufficient food is assured, they come up wonderfully. The bright cheery women who come into our office after they have had the allowance for a few months are hardly recognizable as the broken, almost helpless women who made application.

The hardest part of our work has been to refuse the hundreds of needy, worthy women because the appropriation was so inadequate, and so we hope for the good will and influence of you all to get from the next Legislature enough to make our work really effective.

Report of the Oregon Child-Welfare Commission, Jan. 7, 1913 to Dec. 31, 1914.

TO THE GOVERNOR:

At the Second International Congress on Child Welfare held at Washington, D. C., in 1911, under the auspices of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, resolutions were adopted urging the appointment of a Child-Welfare Commission in every state. Honorable Oswald West, Governor of Oregon, was the first to respond, appointing such a commission January 7, 1913, to serve without any appropriation.

The outline accompanying the appointment showed its purpose was to study conditions affecting childhood, to ascertain the best way to remedy existing evils, and to endeavor, through legislation and education, to throw necessary and proper safeguards about the children of the state.

Without funds to carry on the work, only such time as could be spared from other urgent duties was given by the members who feel that a mere beginning has been made in studying conditions affecting childhood. The home has been termed the stronghold of the state. The foundation for the creation of citizens is laid here. Since nothing can take the place of the home, the first duty of

the state is to protect the home, and towering far above all laws in importance, are those whereby provision is made, not only to grant protection to homes, but to foster every known agency whereby the children from birth may have opportunity of fullest development, physically, mentally, morally and spiritually. When the legislators will consider that laws governing the highest welfare of the state's most promising product, the boy and the girl, are of greater importance than all its natural resources—fish, game or animals—and enact such laws, Oregon will be the Mecca toward which will flow a great population from other states.

The following phases bearing upon childhood have been studied, though not completely covered: Educational, Recreational, Amusements, Industrial, Physical Health, and Moral Development, Birth Registration, Medical Inspection in rural and city schools, Medical Inspection in factories, Backward, Dependent, Delinquent, Deaf, Blind and Feeble-minded children, Institutional care.

The Commission, therefore, through its research work, has sought ways and means, not only to ameliorate, but also to prevent evils now prev-

alent. Our recommendations have been prepared with this combined thought in mind.

FINDINGS OF THE COMMISSION

Notable Points of Progress

The findings of the Commission will show that Oregon has achieved much for its children, standing well in the forefront with older and larger states in certain phases of care for child-life. However, they will also show the great need of further legislation looking toward continued improvement, if Oregon desires to remain in the van.

As reports have been gathered, we find many of the states are sincerely laboring to secure such laws as will give every one of its children equal opportunity and every parent such protection for the child in the home as will safeguard that institution. Notable progress has been made for the normal child along all educational lines.

One very valuable agency in this progress throughout the country is the rapidly multiplying number of Parent-Teacher Circles. Through this movement, parents have been awakened and home life has been brought in closer touch with school life. The joint efforts of these two agencies already have been the means of solving many child problems. Reports come to us from numerous districts of higher efficiency in school work as well as better home conditions.

The coöperation of parents and teachers, homes and schools, acting with their respective educational leaders in a short time has accomplished marked progress toward realizing child potentiality in head, hand and heart, by means of domestic science and arts, manual training, school gardens, playgrounds, gymnasiums, industrial clubs and social centers. The city, county and state superintendents have seconded this significant movement.

Oregon has led other states in the School Garden work and the Home Credit System. The latter is not

only proving to be a character builder, but a triumph in bettering conditions in the rural home.

While the present has been termed the "century of the child" it might also be designated as the century of the parent. Never in the world's history has so much been done for the education of parents. Education means enlightenment, and thousands of our parents today have become awakened to a sense of their responsibility and are striving as never before to meet it.

Parents' Educational Bureau

Here again it is found that Oregon leads in that it has established the first Parents' Educational Bureau. From this center literature is distributed, giving valuable knowledge on prenatal influences, infant hygiene, sex physiology, adolescence and other helps for child culture.

Physical and psychological tests with correct standard of measurements are applied to children by prominent physicians and nurses; also such treatment suggested to parents as will correct the defects shown. At present this Bureau is maintained and fostered by the Oregon Congress of Mothers.

The tax-payers of the state should count it a privilege to assume the support of such a Bureau in each one of the main cities, because the education of parents is the best preventive work. It will also tend to greatly decrease the vast social and financial waste.

In this work of parental education, the State University, through its rapidly growing extension service, is taking an increasingly large and effective part. Besides lending the services of its lecturers to the Bureau and to the Parent-Teacher Circles and similar groups and meetings throughout the state, it has published instructive bulletins and courses of reading, as well as offering a completely organized correspondence course of study for parents.

Another bulwark to prevent the breaking up of homes in our state

is the recently enacted law, providing for an allowance to dependent widows having children under school age.

With all these splendid educational activities, the Commission finds that changes and additional improvements are needed which are presented under its recommendations.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The following matters are regarded as perhaps the most urgently and immediately calling for action:

1. That the Superintendent of Public Instruction be made ex officio a member of the governing board of each of the state institutions having charge of children and minors, so that these institutions may be brought into organic relations to the educational system of the state of which they are and ought to be a part.

2. That the heads of all these institutions be chosen expressly and solely with reference to expert qualifications.

3. Regular physical and psychological examinations in all of our institutions for children.

4. A Juvenile Probation Commission, to standardize and supervise the probation work of the State, with the Governor and State Superintendent of Public Instruction as ex-officio members.

5. Local day schools for teaching speech to normal deaf children whenever there are six children over the age of three years.

6. A commitment law for the feeble-minded, including both sexes over ten years of age.

7. A separate cottage to be used for epileptics.

8. The enactment of a law to prevent infant blindness caused by the preventable disease known as ophthalmia neonatorum.

9. The enactment of a law giving the illegitimate child the father's support and right of inheritance, when paternity has been adjudicated by the court.

10. Bureau of Vital Statistics and the enactment of the "Model Law" on Birth Registration.

11. Establishment of a Parents' Educational Bureau or department in cities of 5,000 and over, under the supervision of the local Board of Education, the State Department coöperating with the local Board.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Compilation of laws pertaining to children.

2. Protection against cruelty to children. (The present law and appropriation provides only for protection against cruelty to animals.)

3. That special provision be made in each county for the care of its dependent children, preferably in foster homes rather than institutions.

4. That private maternity homes and boarding houses where children are taken to board be registered at some central department (probably the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, which receives state aid).

5. That all vaudeville performance be eliminated from the moving picture theaters.

6. That greater effort be made to enforce the laws already enacted.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL BOARDS

That the following be established wherever practicable and at the earliest opportunity:

1. Public Kindergartens.

2. Classes for exceptional children.

3. Manual training and domestic science courses in all rural communities.

4. Secure teachers with normal school training.

5. More complete school census forms.

6. A school nurse for at least every 4,000 children in Portland and one for every other city containing 1,500 school children.

7. That the name "Truant Officer" be changed to "Attendance Officer."

8. That the powers of the Boards of Education be extended so as to give them supervision over all children under school age, whether they be delinquent, dependent or wage-earners.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARDS OF HEALTH

1. That a Department of Child Hygiene be established in connection with State and City Boards of Health.

2. Systematic health inspection in factories or canneries where children are employed.

The following achievements by various organizations and agencies in behalf of the child are well worthy of mention:

1. The milk station as conducted in Portland under the auspices of the Visiting Nurse Association.

2. Physical and psychological tests as applied to young children when the tests are followed up, giving parents needed advice.

3. The work of the Parent-Teacher Associations throughout the state.

4. Civic work for child betterment done by the various Women's Clubs.

5. The extension work for parent education of our State University.

6. The extension work accom-

plished by the Social Hygiene Society in the matter of educating parents along the lines of sex physiology.

7. The special classes established in the public schools.

8. The work of the Fruit and Flower Mission of Portland in conducting day nurseries for the care of children of working mothers. These nurseries receive no state or county aid.

9. The social settlement work established by the People's Institute in Portland.

10. Alcohol and other intoxicants are found to be the causes of many existing ills that have directly affected the children; we therefore commend the work done by the W. C. T. U. and other organizations for their persistent efforts in abolishing this evil.

11. The work done for the moral and spiritual uplift of children by the Sunday Schools of all sects; and the extension work as carried on by the home departments through friendly visitors.

Nineteenth Annual Child Welfare Conference National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association

PORTLAND, ORE., MAY 12-16. HOTEL BENSON, HEADQUARTERS.

ANNUAL STATE CONVENTIONS.

ALABAMA:	Montgomery.....	March 31-April 1
CALIFORNIA:	San Francisco.....	May 20
	National Congress of Mothers Day	
CONNECTICUT:	West Haven.....	April 22-23
IOWA:	Cedar Falls.....	April 8, 9, 10
MISSISSIPPI:	Jackson.....	May 11, 12, 13
MISSOURI:	Kansas City.....	April 27, 28, 29
MONTANA:	Butte and Helena.....	May 7, 8, 9
NEW YORK:	Poughkeepsie.....	Oct. 6, 7, 8
NORTH DAKOTA:	Bismarck.....	May 5, 6
	Headquarters:—Hotel Grand Pacific	
ST. PAUL:	Minnesota.....	May 3, 4
	Headquarters:—St. Paul Hotel	
WASHINGTON:	Spokane.....	April 14, 15, 16
WISCONSIN:	Kenosha.....	April 29-30

TEXAS DISTRICT CONFERENCES IN APRIL.

FIRST DISTRICT:	Stephenville.....	April 15-17
SECOND DISTRICT:	Greenville.....	April 21-22
THIRD DISTRICT:	Henderson.....	April 28-29
FIFTH DISTRICT:	Del Rio.....	April 7-8

Program for Parent-Teacher Associations for March

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of educational value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

FIRST TOPIC (To be read by one member).

THE HOME GARDEN.

WHAT ONE SCHOOL DID FOR THE COMMUNITY.

SECOND TOPIC (To be assigned to another member).

WHAT OTHER PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS ARE DOING. SEE STATE NEWS.

THIRD TOPIC (To be assigned to third member).

CURRENT NEWS OF WORK FOR CHILD-WELFARE, gleaned from all sources, both local and international.

LOAN PAPERS ON CHILD NURTURE

Send for the printed list of Loan Papers on Child Nurture and Child Welfare prepared especially for program use. The list will be sent free, provided stamp is enclosed. The papers are type-written. Twelve may be selected and kept for the season at a cost of \$2.00.

They have been written by specialists to meet the needs of parents in dealing with problems of child life at different stages of its development. Single papers will be sent for twenty-five cents and may be kept three weeks. Many new papers have been added to the list.

The Report of Third International Congress on Child-Welfare contains a wealth of material for use in Parent-Teacher Associations. The edition is limited, so that orders should be sent promptly to secure it. Price \$2.00. Send orders to National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 910 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

BOOKS FOR PARENTS

A list of 25 books suitable for use of parents will be sent to those who desire it. A Circle of 25 members can have a valuable circulating library if each member can buy just one book, or these books may often be secured from the Library.

Aims and Purposes of National Congress of Mothers

To raise the standards of home life. To develop wiser, better-trained parenthood.

To give young people, ignorant of the proper care and training of children, opportunities to learn this, that they may better perform the duties of parenthood.

To bring into closer relations the home and the school, that parent and teacher may co-operate intelligently in the education of the child.

To surround the childhood of the whole world with that loving, wise care in the impressionable years of life, that will develop good citizens, instead of lawbreakers and criminals.

To carry the mother-love and mother-thought into all that concerns or touches childhood in Home, School, Church, State or Legislation.

To interest men and women to co-operate in the work for purer, truer homes, in the belief that to accomplish the best results, men and women must work together.

To secure such legislation as will ensure that children of tender years may not be tried in ordinary courts, but that each town shall establish juvenile courts and special officers, whose business it shall be to look out for that care which will rescue, instead of confirm the child in evil ways.

To work for such probationary care in individual homes rather than institutions.

To rouse the whole community to a sense of its duty and responsibility to the blameless, dependent and neglected children, because there is no philanthropy which will so speedily reduce our taxes, reduce our prison expenses, reduce the expense of institutions for correction and reform.

The work of the Congress is civic work in its broadest and highest sense, and every man or woman who is interested in the aims of the Congress is cordially invited to become a member and aid in the organized effort for a higher, nobler national life, which can only be attained through the individual homes.

State News

CALIFORNIA

The California Congress of Mothers met at the Chamber of Commerce in Oakland, February 26, Mrs. Rowell presiding. Members were present from Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda. Reports from departments and officers were followed by a discussion of plans of California as hostess state to the national officers who are to have a conference in San Francisco on May 21 and 22 at the Auditorium, just following the State Convention which is planned for May 18 and 19, while Thursday, May 20, is National Congress of Mothers' Day at the Exposition.

Legislative matters were reported, progress of the proposed Birth Registration Law in the State Legislature, also of the various bills proposed that bear on Child-Welfare Legislation.

Dr. Anna Strong of the Children's Bureau of the United States Government now having a department at the Exposition, came in by

invitation to confer about the souvenir program which the California Congress of Mothers is planning to produce for use in May at the Exposition. Interesting and helpful ideas were given relating to better babies, child labor and home play exhibits. A bureau of information of all exhibits of welfare to children is to be maintained.

A great many inquiries for home education have been forwarded to the California mothers from Dr. Claxton, of the United States Bureau of Education, and replies to their urgent need will be sent as soon as possible by the Extension Chairman of the California Congress of Mothers.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CONGRESS OF MOTHERS (FIRST DISTRICT).

In January, a "Reciprocity Convention" was held in Long Beach, presided over by the ever-working Mrs. C. F. Sawyer, Chairman of Education. A heavy rain reduced the attendance to about 100, but an animating

program was given by prominent speakers who dwelt on the preventive and educational sides of congress work.

At Pasadena, February 25, in the high school building, was held another "Reciprocity Day" with about 250 delegates present. Brilliant sunshine, snow-capped mountains an hour's ride away, and blossoming fruit trees, roses and verdant semi-tropical plants caused us to forget that we were in a world of turmoil and war. The presence of thousands of Chinese, Japanese and Mexicans picking oranges, and doing other work, however, reminded us of the grave alien problems before us. As the great Parent-Teacher movement advances, the more we see that ours, in large part, is the duty of harmonizing the home problems of these residents.

The opening of Panama, the exodus from Mexico of thousands of disheartened refugees, is giving California some lessons to study. The advancement of foreign children in our schools tends to make them ashamed of their parents, disregard their authority and to run the streets unrestrained. This means contact with the probation officers. The clever little fellows do interpreting for their parents to the disadvantage of the latter, and home discipline vanishes. Past the grammar school age not only children of foreign parents, but many American children grow out of harmony with both their homes and educational forces.

Herein lies the province of Mrs. Frank A. Gibson, of Los Angeles, member of the State Immigration and Housing Commission. She spoke in the morning on Senate Bill 427 providing for the appointment of "home teachers" for every 500 children, for the instruction of parents, foreign born particularly, in matters relating to school, sanitation, English language, household duties, food, clothing and the fundamentals of the American system of government. Foreign children not in school are also reached by this bill.

Mr. C. D. Chamberlin, president of the Grand Avenue School Parent-Teacher Association spoke on an experiment which the First District have undertaken with him, of placing in homes of young parents, and prospective parents a system of charts and child-study folders, now ready for circulation, supplemented by a course of free lectures in a centrally located auditorium or parent's forum, where instruction will be given by experts in the employment of toys, games, dolls, creative materials, in securing obedience, concentration and proper development from birth to the fourth or fifth year school age. Many of the most prominent people of Los Angeles have signed an endorsement of the plan, and the Board of Education are considering furnishing free the needed headquarters for free

lectures. A series of twelve films on child-guidance, in the home, for the first twelve years, is being arranged for. If this is a success it will be helpful in every community, in aiding young parents to form the proper habits in their infants, during the years the child is most impressionable.

About an hour was given to a lecture and film on better babies, by Mrs. Livingstone.

The most important part of the program was a discussion of seven of the many bills before the California State Legislature, Child Labor, Home Education, Woman Jurors, Mother's Pension, Juvenile Court, Community Property and Compulsory Education. Mrs. Harry Huston presided, and Dr. Jessie A. Russell, member National Committee of the Congress of Mothers conducted the discussion. She is a far-seeing student of social conditions and has been studying the laws of the different states governing defectives, neglected and delinquent children. A natural keen perception enhanced by university and medical training has enabled her to discover the weak and harmful features to the existing juvenile laws. Dr. Russell was fortunately placed on the state commission for the revision of juvenile court laws in this state, many of which had been drafted without considering the effect on the future. The bills of 1909, '11 and '13 had been passed without regard to harmony, a fact well proven in the survey made last August. Aided by the survey, Judge Wilbur, in November, turned his attention to drafting a new Juvenile Court bill—No. 307.

Among the reforms which this bill will secure if passed will be the certain reduction of the number of probationers in court; the co-ordination of duties and centering of authority in one head in Juvenile Hall; a more careful investigation of cases before dragging them into publicity; the definite fixing of authority in the county and state, avoiding the uncertainty which now exists as to where certain cases belong. The present laws have encouraged the passing of cases from one authority to another without settlement, causing delays, making capable probation officers appear to be incompetent, and bringing demoralization and misunderstandings in court proceedings. The new laws will tend to make the civil service really serviceable in principle and practice, avoiding the hampering of judication. Other benefits will be the raising of the mother's pensions from \$11 to \$12.50 so that children may be better clothed and fed than now; reforms in the matter of officer's duties, of wards, detention homes, segregation of defectives, etc. and a definite bureau where money may be donated

or bequeathed to the mother's pension commission.

When this new Juvenile Court law is passed by the California legislature it will be the most complete in the world on the subject—a model for probation workers everywhere, and the California Congress of Mothers feel a sense of pride that Dr. Russell who has been so many years in our parent-teacher work, could have been used so effectively in helping to bring order out of chaos. The following were represented on the committee: "The Congress of Mothers," "The State Board of Charities and Correction," "The Protective Association," "County Probation Commissioners, Throughout the State," Chief Probation Officers and Juvenile Court Judge.

LOS ANGELES FEDERATION OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS.

Regular bi-monthly meeting held in Blanchard Hall, all day, March 4. One hundred and forty two delegates registered, representing 56 of the 135 schools of Los Angeles Federation having associations.

The key-note of the discussions and talks was education of parents that the number of delinquent children might grow less. Dr. Russell spoke on the nature of various bills before the legislature, with her usual ability to detail a large amount of valuable information in a short space of time.

Mrs. Harvey Trobridge, chairman of the Parent-Teacher Association Juvenile Court committee presided, while Mrs. Frank W. Blair, Secretary of the Committee, described the work being done in co-operation with the Juvenile Court of this city. Serving voluntarily, even paying their own expenses, this committee come into heart-to-heart touch with many cases of misunderstood boys and girls, in a way that could not be done by the county officials. Details are so sacred they cannot be reported. Mothers and fathers are reached by tact and love, and are taught that they are responsible for much delinquency. Since the May report, 116 cases have been handled by this committee. 250 calls were made. Sometimes a half dozen calls are necessary before the person wanted is reached. Many children come to this committee between the age of ten and sixteen—such a difficult age. Modern life attracts many children from home between the age of fourteen and sixteen, and a little knowledge of how to entertain them at home would solve all the parents problems. The children are not "bad," but the parents call them so, because they want to "go" and seek amusement. Here is a wide field of usefulness of the Parent-Teacher Association.

Mrs. H. L. Westbroke made special report

of Christmas work in the Emergency Department of the Federation. About 500 stockings and bags were given out; 75 families received toys, 115 received groceries and 150 homes completely taken care of. Bedding and beds given to about 30, while nurses were supplied with 25 mattresses and cots; provisions were entrusted to the United Charities. The L. A. Transfer Co. and H. H. Mann of City Park, and individuals gathered and delivered bundles and boxes in trunks and autos, while the Bekins Van company gave large boxes and delivered. \$610 were received in cash donations in large and small amounts. In the month of December alone, 10,000 garments were given out. This department was kept open every day last year in the Chamber of Commerce building. It has been moved to the Normal Hill Buildings where the good work will continue as before.

Mrs. Frank A. Gibson spoke enthusiastically on the "home teachers" Senate Bill No. 427.

It was voted to send President Mrs. J. D. Taylor to the Child-Welfare conventions at Portland and San Francisco.

Mrs. Hutchinson reported the state history of the Congress was ready and that 700 copies had been sent out free—one to each branch in the state. Other copies 35 cents each.

COLORADO

Your correspondent feels to-day, as never before, the impulse to expand upon the glorious fullness of effort of the Colorado Congress.

It is not surprising that the enthusiasm waxes strong for, out of the desert spaces, are springing up growing, active Mothers' Circles.

Little towns, which barely make a dot upon the state-map, are sending in glowing reports of meetings—asking how to organize and for programs.

Newspapers that a year ago would not publish accounts of anything of the kind, are writing editorials upon the value of the congress and coöperation of home and school.

The most complimentary remarks about the assistance of mothers to the teachers are being passed about from superintendents, principals and teachers to the general public.

DENVER DISTRICT.

The Denver District initiated a Parents' Rally—a large open meeting which drew together a representative audience which filled the East Denver High School—an audience of men and women, parents and teachers.

Extensive advertising of all kinds was brought to bear. Postals were sent out to about 1,500 people. Posters were placed in

the street cars. All churches were invited through the pulpit. The newspapers were kept hot with notices—all of which brought the desired results.

The program was dignified, broad and enlightening. The general subject was "Our Coming Citizen—Your Child."

The sub-topics were: "Determining Forces for Character Building," "Our Own Fireside," "The New Social Service," "The Larger Community." The speakers were leading ministers, high school principals and the governor of the state.

The credit of the success of this profitable evening is due to the Chairman of Church Circles, Mrs. Mattie Burris, whose untiring efforts brought together all elements with educative purpose. Any circle wishing to get further information upon this subject with the view of drawing together a large and representative assembly of parents can receive many excellent suggestions as to methods of procedure by writing to Mrs. Mattie Burris, 2331 Dexter St., Denver, Colo.

A discussion meeting, at Corona School, followed the next week. All subject-matter treated at the rally was openly discussed by the members and interested guests. Especially noticeable was the argument produced by a chance repetition of the old advice, "Spare the Rod and Spoil the Child." It is typical of the advancement of our thinking mothers that they stood as one *against physical punishment*.

Our University Extension Courses are still well attended. We are being taught by practical educators and trained social service workers.

An excellent practical exercise was the making of a budget for the expenses of a family of six who received the average wage of \$750 per year. Another telling lesson was illustrated by moving pictures, showing the slums of Denver, the inside and outside of the homes of the destitute and unfortunate.

Our Baby Conferences are bringing more interest to meetings and awakening the public to the value of eugenics. The newspapers publish "yards" of babies to show the people the good of such work. Dr. Jeanette M. Bolles is untiring in her labors. She lectures at every circle upon the care of Infants,—"Hygiene in Home and School," and "The Dangers of the Twilight Sleep, unskillfully Used."

PUEBLO DISTRICT.

An editorial in the *Pueblo Star* is, perhaps, one of the best indications of the hold that the organization has upon that district. This editorial announces the celebration of the eighteenth birthday of the congress. It says

Pueblo has a flourishing branch with the membership of a thousand.

"The Congress," it says, "is doing a grand work for the mothers and children of the country and bids fair to be of even greater usefulness in the future. Improvement of child life is one of the chief aims of the Mothers' Congress, and through its activities thousands of mothers have been brought to a full realization of the duties and responsibilities of motherhood. Better children, physically, mentally and morally, are being reared as a direct result of the work of the Mothers' Congress and its educational work.

The future of the nation depends upon its children, and any movement designed to promote a higher type of child life is worthy of the heartiest kind of support.

The Pueblo mothers interested in the Mothers' Congress are engaged in a noble work. May all their efforts be crowned with success.

It is needless to say that where such a spirit exists there must be the proper guiding hand in the work. Mrs. Wells, the president of this district, is always active and understanding in her methods. Mrs. Jay, who conducts the Mothers' Congress column in the Sunday papers, uses the right influence in the right way.

A review of the work done in Pueblo since the Congress began its labors there, shows the following excellent summary of things accomplished.

1. Twenty-five hundred dollars for public playgrounds.
2. Three hundred dollars for Better Babies Contests.
3. Better chaperonage for girls.
4. Simplicity and economy in dress for graduation.
5. Screening and curtaining of school windows—screens made by sloyd classes.
6. Half-fares for Children.
7. CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE sent into 1,000 homes.
8. Much interest aroused in vocational training.
9. Censor of moving pictures.
10. A request sent to film manufacturers to remove the portrayal of sensuality in productions.
11. Letters sent to designers and manufacturers to place in our shops simple and convenient dresses for women and children.
12. The Pueblo Branch has organized Parent-Teacher Associations in seven Arkansas valley towns.

On the whole few cities can show more activity nor more good accomplished in so short a time.

The next movement on foot to benefit the schools of Pueblo is the presentation of nineteen flags. This will accomplish two excellent things—first it will foster and create patriotism—then it will encourage loyalty to the Congress because the room having the largest attendance of mothers will receive the flag each month.

TRINIDAD DISTRICT

A flourishing district has been added to the Colorado Congress in the establishment of a large organization in Trinidad. Mrs. Price Dunlavy is the capable president. Through her active administration Superintendent Morgan has announced that Parent-Teachers Circles will be found in every school building and sub-district of the city.

The live interest and the hearty coöperation shown in every direction predicts a successful organization in the Trinidad district.

DURANGO

The Durango Circle held a large and entertaining meeting, at which "The Moral Rights of Children" were discussed. A spelling bee will constitute a lively part of a future program.

WALSENBURG

Walsenburg continues to keep active and draws good audiences to its interesting programs.

BAY FIELD

The subject for future meetings at Bayfield are: "Mothercraft," "Discipline and Individuality," "Promoting the Community Spirit," "A School Child During Vacation," "Babes on the Farm," "The School and Home Needs of our Boys and Girls," "A Well-balanced Ration and Pure Food Cooking."

LA JARA

The La Jara Association has been studying the work of other branches of the organization with the idea of profiting by it.

IGNACIO

Fathers and mothers are meeting together in Ignacio. At a recent assembly it was voted that the men take vacation and spend Saturday afternoons in recreation with their families.

ALLISON

Reports of "splendid" meetings are sent into the State press from Allison.

ENGLEWOOD

North and South Englewood are giving reciprocity meetings. Some of the programs have had the following topics: "Ostrich Mothers," "The Community Door Yard," "The Making of An American," "Peace," "The Heart of a Girl."

WELDONA

Weldona's press is pleading, editorially, for the interest and activity of parents and teachers in work for the welfare of the child. An article from the *Weldona News* editorial column says: "The more one watches the work of the Parent-Teacher's Associations, the more impressed he becomes with their fundamental importance to the individual and the nation."

KERSEY

A Valentine meeting and an exchange of kind thoughts was a diversion in Kersey. Several mothers gave "experience talks."

ILLINOIS

The mid-winter Council of Parent-Teacher Association of Chicago and vicinity was held in the Board of Education Rooms, February 23. The subject of the meeting was "How Can We Establish a Common Standard of Morality for the Home and Schools." It was treated by Dr. Allen Hoben, of the University of Chicago, who maintained that the same standards could and must be taught by holding before the children the same ideals of honesty, patriotism, purity and spirituality. The discussion led by Principal Masslich and Dean Smith took up concrete instances where these principles could be practised. The reports from visiting delegates showed a slow but steady increase in numbers and interest.

March 6 was the date set for the Annual Delegates' Luncheon at the Hotel Sherman. This is our one social affair of the year, and is well attended both by Chicago delegates and those from the State. The subject of the toast-list of which Dr. Nathaniel Butler, of the University of Chicago, was toastmaster, was "Efficiency in the Home, the Business World and the School." Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, Superintendent of Chicago Schools, said that the child's mind to be trained efficiently must have much emotional experience, as well as the purely academic or intellectual. She spoke of the vocational work of the school as giving this in its most wholesome form and said that every time the child's hand grasped a tool with which he might work out all idea, he had an emotional impulse that benefitted him.

We are looking forward with delight to the visit of the National Officers on their way to the coast in May. We shall try to give our own people as much benefit with as little burden to the Officers as we can manage.

KEWANEE

The Mothers' Club which formed one kindergarten in the fall has commenced proceedings for the establishment of a second one on the north side of town. The kindergarten has been greatly needed here, and we are rejoicing in the work of the Mothers' Club.

BLOOMINGTON

On February 19, 1915, the School Officers Association invited the school clubs of McLean county to join with them in their Annual Meeting. Through the efforts of Mr. B. C. Moore, the County Superintendent, a circular letter was sent to the teachers asking for information concerning Parent-Teacher Clubs in the schools. If there proved to be a club, the name of its president was sent to the superintendent. In this way the Confederated School Club of Bloomington (representing every school club in the city) was able to get in touch with most of those in the county, and a letter was sent by this Federated School Club to each association outside of Bloomington, asking that delegates be sent on February 19 to Bloomington, when a county council would be organized if the majority of the clubs so wished.

The Schools Officers Club asked the Bloomington Federated Club to furnish one speaker for the morning meeting and Mrs. W. F. Young, of Chicago, was secured. Dr. Bayley, of the University of Illinois, was the speaker chosen by the school officers.

The Parent-Teacher Associations throughout the county responded enthusiastically to this invitation, and during the business session of the School Officers Club the women withdrew to another room of the Y. M. C. A. building and the Council of Parent-Teacher Associations of McLean county was organized as a branch of the Illinois Congress of Mothers. Investigation showed that there were fourteen school clubs and one church club already members of the Congress, besides one Woman's Club. This made a splendid nucleus for the Council but as there are 258 school districts in McLean county there is much work left to do. The following officers of the Council were elected: President, Mrs. W. E. Reeves, Little Brick School, Bloomington; Secretary, Mrs. E. F. Coolidge, Belvidere School, Bloomington.

IOWA

The Committee on Education of the Iowa Congress of Mothers has recently established a Round Table in each of the four district teachers associations. Simultaneous meetings will be held April 1, 2, 3, as follows: N. E. I. T. A. at Clinton, Leader, Mrs. C. P. Colgrove, Cedar Falls; S. E. I. T. A. at Davenport, Leader, Mrs. I. E. Jackson, Cedar Falls; S. W. I. T. A. at Clarinda, Leader, Mrs. B. F. Carroll, Des Moines; N. W. I. T. A. at Sioux City, Leader, Mrs. Winifred Sloan, Sioux City.

The Iowa Congress of Mothers has conducted a Round Table as a part of the State Teachers Association since 1908. These Round Tables are designed to promote the Parent-Teacher phase of Congress. The District Round Tables held in different parts of the State will tend to interest different groups and promote the organization of Parent-Teacher Associations.

The Committee on Education stands also for the organization of County Associations, with a view of organizing the county along Child-Welfare lines, promoting the organizations of Parent-Teacher Associations and Child Study Circles for young mothers whose children have not reached school age, and holding annual County Conferences to stimulate interest and awaken activity.

MRS. ALLEN O. RUSTE,

Chairman of Committee on Education.

Mrs. Chas. Brenton, President of the Congress, has sent out letters to Parent-Teacher Associations and Mothers' Clubs, inviting affiliation together with membership certificates to be signed and returned with dues to the Treasurer, Mrs. W. C. McElroy, Newton. The county and city superintendents are responding widely to the parent-teacher work of the Congress.

The biennial will be held April 8, 9, 10, at Cedar Falls. The Teachers College, The Woman's Club as well as The Mothers' Council and Parent-Teacher Association will cooperate to make this convention a notable one.

Mrs. I. L. Hillis, the organizer of the Congress, and for several years its president, is now at the head of what is regarded as the most significant movement ever undertaken in Iowa, that of establishing a Child-Welfare Research Station at Iowa University.

The Floyd County Child-Welfare Association announces its third annual Conference for April 29-30, to include a Baby Health Contest, an exhibit from the State University and a program with addresses from Dr. R. H. Sylvester, of the Psychologic Clinic, Iowa University, Miss Bessie McClenahan, of the Social Welfare Department, Iowa University,

Prof. C. P. Colgrove, of the Teachers College, Cedar Falls, and Dr. Florence E. Sherbon, Colfax, well-known child-welfare worker in the state.

MASSACHUSETTS

The meeting of the State Board of directors of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association held in Worcester at the Boys' Trade School brought out some very interesting reports from the local presidents of associations throughout the State who were also asked to attend.

There are over 150 associations with 8,000 members in Massachusetts, every county except Nantucket being well organized.

Mrs. Herbert Patterson, president of the Billerica association, told of the hot lunches which her association is providing for the forty school children who must bring their lunches to school. The small charge made for hot cocoa, soup, oranges and apples covers the expense of material used and pays for outside labor employed, so that the burden of the work does not fall on the teachers. An experiment along the same lines made by the Leicester association was described by Mrs. Whittemore. The teachers specially favor the plan, as they say that much better work is done by the children in the afternoon session as a result.

Mr. Benson, of the Bridgewater Model High School, spoke of the success in bringing about general discussions that were secured by their association through the use of a question box. Mr. Cutler, president of another Bridgewater association, told of the raising of \$100 in their association to instal cooking for girls in the ninth grade.

The Orange association secured an exhibition recently held in the Boston Library by the Society for the Prevention of Infant Mortality and had it exhibited in the Orange Town Hall.

Lynn Association has succeeded in adding to the new \$80,000 school building a large auditorium, which was greatly needed. At the dedication of the auditorium, Mrs. M. P. Higgins, State President for Massachusetts, was invited to speak. Miss Julia Callahan, a member of the executive board, whose work as the principal of a large school in Lynn is greatly appreciated by her city, received many congratulations on this occasion.

The Mothers' Club of Leominster is proving itself to be of great assistance to the schools and North Leominster has giving two pictures to the school and is raising money beside for the national work.

At Nantucket the association is organizing social center activities in the Damon school

with the purpose of providing wholesome evening recreation for the young people of the community. The school is opened three evenings a week under the supervision of the principal of the school who is greatly interested in the experiment. Members of the Parent-Teacher Association make themselves responsible for different evenings. There are games and athletics for the boys, folk dancing and an embroidery class for the girls and a reading room and room for quiet games that can be played on a desk. The city provides light, heat and janitor service so there are no expenses except for equipment. The social center has the endorsement of the school committee, of the superintendent of schools and of the entire community.

LYNN, BALTIMORE STREET PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

We have had two very helpful talks on the "Power of the Home" by Mrs. Chas. Neal Barney, one by Dr. Jocelyn on the "Care of Eyes, Ears, Nose, Mouth and Feet" and one by our assistant superintendent, Miss Flora Pope, on the "Civic Mission of the Parent-Teacher Association." From suggestions in this latter paper came our efforts to have notices printed in various languages on the proper feeding of the children of school age and of the care of houses and yards with relation to exterminating the fly.

We are maintaining a sewing class for foreign children (in our school we have the two extremes—children from fine cultivated homes and some foreigners) with weekly meetings. We have purchased a Singer sewing machine which the mothers are at liberty to come and use.

In the spring we gave a very successful "May Party" which netted us over \$75 with part of which we purchased a school library and also established an "Emergency Fund" on which the teacher can draw. We expect to find this particularly useful when winter comes and shoes need repairing and warm underclothing required.

We shall also draw on this fund to provide hot cocoa and soup to be served on cold winter mornings to the children who need it. Through the kindness of several of our members a very nice Victrola and records was purchased for the school.

LYNN, SHEPARD SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The Shepard School Parent-Teacher Association of Lynn has ample right to claim that it has just passed the most successful year of the four in its life history. As was the custom

in previous years there have been eight monthly meetings, October to May inclusive, on the second Wednesday evening of the month. The average attendance has been very close to 150, made up largely of mothers though usually about one out of every ten persons has been a father.

The chief attraction at each of the eight meetings has been an address on some child welfare topic by noted speakers. One of the strongest and most practical talks was given by Miss Flora E. Pope, Assistant Superintendent of Schools of Lynn, on "The Moral Nature of the Child and How to Cultivate It." Superintendent John D. Brooks of the Public Schools of Natick delivered a pleasing address on December 10, subject "The Greatest Thing in the World." Dr. Myra Ruppell gave a most helpful address on "The Health of the Child." Dr. Nelson C. Davis gave a stereopticon lecture on "Country Life and the Production of Milk" which pleased our people immensely. On Saturday afternoon, March 14, our Parent-Teacher Association held a Cake, Candy, Apron and Sample Sale which netted us about sixty dollars. The money was deposited in a savings bank as a fund upon which to draw for running expenses or to help furnish a hall if the school ever has one.

The leading policy of our association has been to foster the spirit of coöperation between the home and the school, thus making for the growth of educational efficiency and happiness. The monthly meeting affords opportunity to the parents to consult teachers about their children's progress. The admirable work performed by the membership committee in making a house to house canvass of all the homes of Shepard School pupils involving the making of about 700 calls, has meant much for the arousing of interest and a family spirit.

Thirty-six ladies working in pairs have nearly completed this year's canvass in about two weeks. One lady who is a delegate to the State convention has made fifty calls in the interest of the association. An efficient and faithful executive board has monthly meetings to lay plans.

The Principal of the Shepard School affirms that no other single agent has ever approached the value in "peace and prosperity" that the Association has been to the school, pupils and teachers alike. The nineteen teachers unanimous in their positive assurance that the extra work lightens other burdens.

The copies of CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE which is taken by our president are freely circulated among members of the Executive Committee much to our profit and pleasure.

The inspirational letters and literary con-

tributions sent from time to time by our beloved State President, Mrs. Higgins, have been as guiding stars in our pathway.

The new year's work has opened most auspiciously with an attendance on Wednesday evening, October 14, of 230 people. The address by Mrs. Neal Barney on "Discipline in the Home" was of high practical worth to teachers as well as parents. Our prospects are bright. Coöperation insures prosperity. May other associations in the State be equally fortunate as to outlook and promise.

LYNN, MYRTLE STREET PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Commencing on October 3, 1913, monthly meetings were held in the afternoon in Myrtle Street School.

The speakers and their subjects at these meetings were Mr. Eugene Averill, Principal of the Tracy Grammar School, "Bring up a Child in the Way He Should Go and When He is Old He'll not Depart From It." Mr. Smith, Superintendent of Swampscott Schools, "Systems used in Different Places for Assisting Pupils Individually." Miss Alice Williams, teacher of cooking in Lynn Schools, "Nutritious Foods for Children." Miss Flora Pope, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, "Moral Training of Children." Dr. Roy Mather, "Tonsils and Adenoids." Dr. Harper Blaisdell, "Diseases Common Among Children." Mr. Ernest S. Kavanagh, agent for the Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Children, "Protection of Children."

Entertainment was provided at the meetings and during the social hour refreshments were served.

The May meeting took the form of a basket lunch picnic in the woods, at which races and games caused much fun. In June all teachers from the Myrtle and Aldsworth schools with the mothers and children had a trolley ride to Lynn Beach where bathing, games and a lunch were enjoyed.

An apron, cake and candy sale was held in February at the home of Mrs. T. W. Rhodes from which fifty dollars were realized. Each member made and donated a square for a patch work quilt which was prepared by Mrs. Emma Reno and completed by the ladies one afternoon at a quilting bee. Five cent chances were taken on this quilt and twenty five dollars realized.

Through the influence of our association the plans for the new \$80,000 school recently completed to replace the old Myrtle Street School were changed to include an assembly hall, an extra entrance, a room was allowed to be used as a branch of the public library

and a name, selected by the school board, which was objectionable to the parents in the neighborhood was changed and the name "Lincoln" which was agreeable to all was substituted.

During the winter the Executive Board held a series of whists the proceeds of which are to purchase a fine picture representing parenthood for the new school hall.

Flowers have been sent in time of death or serious illness in the families of members, ten dollars sent to the Salem fire sufferers and a foot ball and basket ball donated for the children's gymnasium work in the school.

JOSEPHINE G. RHODES,
Secretary

MISSISSIPPI

The Mississippi Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, under the leadership of Mrs. J. B. Lawrence, president, will hold its annual convention in Jackson, Miss., May 11-13.

The coöperation of Mr. W. H. Smith, Superintendent of Schools for Mississippi, has been given most cordially to the Mississippi Congress. The following letter has been sent to every County Superintendent in the State:

"I desire in this connection to call your attention to the work in the state of the Mothers' Congress and Parent-Teachers' Associations. From time to time literature will be mailed you from this office and from the office of the state organizations, which, if properly used will prove valuable in connection with your school improvement work.

"These organizations are doing very earnest and effective work and their help and coöperation should be encouraged as far as possible.

"If you desire additional literature kindly address Mrs. J. B. Lawrence, President, Jackson, Miss."

An earnest effort is being made to form these parent-teacher associations in every community. Mrs. B. H. Stapleton, first president and an earnest lover of the congress work, rejoices that the work is going forward so actively, although through illness, she is no longer able to do more than to give it God speed.

The coöperation afforded by the state superintendents in this state has been of the greatest service.

MISSOURI

Third Annual Convention to be held in Kansas City, in April—Springfield now has Mothers Circle or Parent-Teacher Association in every school—Two new vice-presidents appointed at board meeting in Springfield—Child Welfare Day observed by many Organizations

in the State—Miraculous growth continues—Savannah has largest organization.

The Third Annual Convention of the Missouri Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations will be held in Kansas City April 27, 28 and 29.

Prominent speakers from throughout the State will take a part in the program.

Professor Geo. H. Melcher, Dr. H. P. Ravenel, Miss Louise Stanley and C. H. Williams, Ph.D., will represent the Schools of the State and explain how the Mothers' Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations may help from the standpoint of the Teacher.

J. L. McKeever, Ph.D., Kansas University, will also have an important place on the program. In fact, this is to be truly a conference of parents and teachers and round table talks will prevail at several of the sessions, the teachers taking the leading part.

Springfield is the first city to report the organization of a Mothers' Circle or Parent-Teacher Association in connection with every public school. Many school superintendents throughout the State have said they hoped there would soon be a Mothers' Circle or Parent-Teacher Association in connection with every school under their supervision, but P. H. Roberts, of Springfield, is the first superintendent to have such a successful report to make, though in Kansas City there are forty-two active organizations in the schools.

At the recent meeting of the board of managers of the state organization, two new vice-presidents were appointed to fill the vacancies made by the resignation of those elected at the convention.

Mrs. O. W. Pratt, Kansas City, and Mrs. C. N. Miller, St. Louis, will fill the offices for the unexpired terms.

A new department was created at this meeting, that of Country Life, and Mr. J. H. Roberts, of Springfield, was made chairman.

In commemoration of the founding of the National Congress of Mothers, many Circles observed Child-Welfare Day, February 17, with fitting program or entertainment. In most cases collections were taken up, admission charged or parcel post packages sold, the moneys received to be forwarded to the National or Mother organization.

The Spinsters Convention, was given by the Lincoln School Parent-Teacher Association of St. Louis County with such success that they have been offered \$50 to repeat the performance in St. Louis.

Sedalia reports the most interesting meeting of the year.

The Summit School Parent-Teacher Asso-

ciation of Sedalia reports the most interesting meeting of the year, children of the fourth grade assisting with the program.

In Kansas City and St. Louis several organizations reported parcel post package sales. These packages were contributed by the individual members and were supposed to be worth the price asked, but were not allowed to be opened until after purchased. This "bean in the bag" proposition appealed to all, and every one was satisfied with "whatever" they received, knowing the funds were to be used to further Child-Welfare work throughout the United States. Many packages contained hand work worth many times the amount paid.

The Playlet "Bringing Cheer to the Con-alescent" brought a good crowd and quite a sum of money for one circle and created interest in the splendid work they are doing for the welfare of the children of their community.

Other circles reported the observance of Child-Welfare Day with reading the "Origin of the Congress," "Life of the Founder," "Eighteen Years work of the Congress of Mothers," "The Public School, and the Mothers' Circle," etc. In fact, so many good reports have been sent in Magazine space will only permit this brief outline of activities as reported.

The Social Center Bill, framed and presented by the State Chairmen of Legislation and Social Center, has had the third reading before the Forty-Eighth General Assembly of the Missouri Legislature, and those interested feel sure of its passage. This bill provides that the school buildings of Missouri may be used for social and recreational as well as educational purposes.

The Parent-Teacher Association of Savannah, though organized only two or three months, has the distinction of being the largest organization in the State, with a membership of 145 enthusiastic workers all paid for up 1915.

They have also secured the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE for the library and, of course, many read of the work being done for the welfare of the child who are in no way connected with a Mothers' Circle or Parent-Teacher Association.

The Superintendent of Schools of Savannah is very enthusiastic over the effective work of the organization, and is chairman of the Program Committee. This perhaps is one of the reasons for their most wonderful success.

New organizations, not previously reported: Cameron School Parent-Teacher Associations, Cameron; Rush Tower Mothers' Circle, Rush Tower; E. C. White School Parent-Teacher Association, Kansas City;

Askew School Parent-Teacher Association, Kansas City; Bristol School Parent-Teacher Association, Independence; Pickwick School Mothers' Circle, Springfield; Crane School Parent-Teacher Association, Crane; Branson School Parent-Teacher Association, Branson; Ott School Mothers' Circle, Independence; Benton School Mothers' Circle, Columbia; Lee School Parent-Teacher Association Columbia.

COMMUNITY ENTERTAINMENTS IN THE SCHOOL WELL WORTH WHILE

That the school buildings should be used as community centers, where fathers, mothers, teachers and children may assemble and enjoy an evening together, has been demonstrated quite forcibly in St. Louis and vicinity recently.

In January the Mothers' Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations of St. Louis and St. Louis County gave the first community entertainment and dance in one of the high schools of St. Louis.

The Board of Education of St. Louis had in November given their consent for the school buildings to be used as social centers, and the entertainment given in January was considered a test case; to see if the people really wanted to use the schools for entertainments; to find out if such entertainments were practicable, from a social, moral and financial standpoint.

The fact that the largest school building in the city would not accommodate the crowd that came, proved without a doubt that the tax-payers wanted to use the schools. That no damage was done to the school property, and no expense incurred except heat, light and janitor service, about \$40 all told, and yet more than 2000 people from all sections of the city were entertained in a most wholesome and refined manner, proved the success of the undertaking from a financial standpoint; and that fathers, mothers, teachers, children and even grandfathers and grandmothers came to be entertained and to entertain, for the entertainment was all given by home talent, proved that socially and morally the influence was of the best.

The success of this first community affair spread rapidly and teachers, who had at first been rather sceptical of the outcome were anxious to have an entertainment or dance in their own school for the pleasure and benefit of their own patrons.

Several Parent-Teacher organizations and Mothers' Circles have sponsored such entertainments "For the people and by the people" and in every instance they have meant much to the community and to the association.

The Maplewood Parent-Teacher Association gave a Penny Mardi Gras, in February in the school building.

The superintendent and the splendid corps of teachers in cooperation with the parents interested the children in the undertaking and much excitement prevailed. Each child brought from home cookies, candy, dough-nuts, apples, popcorn, nuts or anything they could contribute to be sold on the penny basis, all the proceeds, after deducting the expenses of the evening, to be used for purchasing a set of stereopticon slides for the school.

A penny admission was charged, and this amount was for the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, as the contribution of the Maplewood Parent-Teacher Association, for the Child-Welfare Fund.

After paying the entrance fee of a penny the guests were ushered into the corridor and were there greeted with tables loaded with all kinds of good things to eat—just such things as one would expect to see at a "home baking" or "county fair."

Special "attractions" were held in the different rooms, such signs as "Over and Under the Sea," "The Only Groundhog above the Ground," etc., left little room for doubt as to the nature of the "attraction" and just what each would get for his or her penny, but few resisted the temptation to know for sure what the room contained.

In the basement an ice cream cone or a glass of lemonade, donated, could be had for a penny.

A collection of stereopticon views borrowed from a neighboring school, were on exhibition in the assembly room, and every one was glad to give a penny to see them; in fact, many left more than the required amount. Some readings by local talent concluded the evening's entertainment, the result of which was, an enjoyable evening; teachers and parents are better acquainted than they have ever been before; and the Parent-Teacher Association has money to equip the playgrounds of both boys and girls and buy a set of stereopticon slides of their own.

MONTANA

Six Parent-Teacher Associations have been organized in Great Falls; three more are to be organized. All have voted to join the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. We hope that the national officers will come through our city in May.

A letter from Grayling, Montana, says: "We are in a very snowy country and have

to go about on snow shoes, so it would be a great help for our children that are at home and cannot attend school in the winter on account of snow to have some home study. We have from five to six feet of snow and it is very hard for them to get to school for more than six months of the year, in the summer."

Governor S. V. Stewart hopes to attend the conference and has given the use of the Capitol for this.

Butte is eager to have the state organization formed there. Conferences have been arranged in both cities. Over a thousand members in Montana are interested in these conferences and are lending their support to make them a success.

NEW YORK

The winter meeting of the Executive Board of the Mothers' Assembly of the State of New York was held in Troy, February 23 and 24, and was entertained by the officers of the Troy Parent-teacher Associations, Mrs. Frederick S. Cote, the president, making all the arrangements. The meeting was well-attended and plans were made for a substantial increase in the treasury that the extension work may be well cared for. It was unanimously decided to have sectional one-day conferences throughout the state during the spring months. The possibility of county organization was carefully considered and the conclusion was that two or three counties at least were ready for it and that leaders be chosen to consider such organization in those locations. It was voted that a year book be compiled and published. A common standard of membership was planned for through the use of membership cards. Money was voted for a supply of "Home Education" literature to be sent from the National Congress headquarters to the clubs throughout New York State. Plans were made for the annual meeting of the state organization in Poughkeepsie next October, the dates decided upon being the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth. The program committee for this meeting held an executive session.

In addition to the regular business of the executive board, a conference with the teachers of Troy was planned by the superintendent of education and proved of mutual helpfulness. More than two hundred of the teaching force of Troy were present. This meeting was addressed by the state president and several members of the executive board. A mass-meeting of parents was held, February 23 at 8 p. m. in the High School, the state president giving an address on "Twentieth Century Patriotism." A luncheon was served

by the domestic science department of the high school at which the members of the executive were guests of honor and a delightful evening reception in the home of the president of one of the school clubs was given for the state executive also an automobile ride to Rensselaer Polytechnic and the Emma Willard School.

All the results of such a meeting cannot be enumerated, but all agreed that there was a clearer understanding of the organized work in the minds of the teachers and mothers of Troy and a closer fellowship between them and the state executive, that wise plans had been made for the extension of the work and the strengthening of the clubs in general and that there was a deepened conviction in all hearts of the importance and the preciousness of the National Child-Welfare cause.

NORTH DAKOTA

Governor Hanna has arranged to have the meeting for the organization of the North Dakota Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held in the State Capitol at Bismarck and will act as honorary chairman at the meeting. The date is May 5 and 6.

Mrs. Rudolph Acher, Valley City, North Dakota, State Organizer, and Mr. Acher are doing much to promote interest in the coming conference, as are many others who desire to see their state strongly represented in the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Parent-Teacher Associations have been organized in the high school and all the elementary schools of Columbia, S. C. There is much interest. Other sections of South Carolina are at work and the future looks bright for a strong state branch of the Congress.

Not only the mothers but the fathers turned out in large numbers. Stirring addresses were made and refreshments served at each meeting.

TEXAS

DISTRICT MEETINGS

The five District Conferences of the Texas Congress of Mothers will be held during the month of April. The Fifth District will convene in Del Rio, April 7 and 8; the First District will convene in Stephenville, April 15 to 17; the Second District will meet in Greenville, the 21st and 22d; while the Third District will hold a two-day session in Henderson, April 28 to 29.

Interesting programs bearing upon the departments of work taken up by the state

organization are being arranged. The round table discussions will be made a prominent feature of each Conference. The state president, Mrs. F. W. McAllister, of San Antonio, will attend all the sessions of each conference and outline a definite plan of action for the several districts.

ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZING SECRETARY

Miss Mary L. Watkins, Organizing Secretary for the Texas Congress of Mothers, in response to an invitation by the president of the College of Industrial Arts, Prof. F. M. Bralley, has for several weeks past been the guest of that institution where she is preparing, with the assistance of college experts, a free course of study for the use of clubs in membership with the Texas Congress of Mothers. These courses consist of a practical outline of study, lectures, and demonstrations in "home making." Miss Watkins is also preparing, with the generous assistance of the College of Industrial Arts, package libraries to be used in connection with the course of study. The subjects for the package libraries will be along the line of child study, home economics, school and community problems.

CHILD-WELFARE DAY IN TEXAS

In response to an urgent letter containing an outlined program sent out by Mrs. Ella Caruther Porter, Vice President of the National Congress of Mothers, to the Texas Congress of Mothers many of the clubs over the state held special meetings on February 17, "Child-Welfare Day." A special feature of these programs was a "History of the National Congress of Mothers," and an outline of its undertakings and needs. In consequence, the Texas clubs feel more closely allied to the National Organization, and see more clearly that the individual club is a potent factor in the great national movement for child welfare.

The Dallas Council of Mothers held a most successful meeting on Child-Welfare day at which Prof. J. F. Kimbell, superintendent of city schools, and Mrs. Ella Caruthers Porter spoke.

The Fort Worth Council of Mothers, Mrs. George W. Steere, president, observed Child-Welfare Day by holding a mass meeting in the evening at the Magnolia Avenue Christian Church. This church enjoys the distinction of conducting a most successful Parent-Teacher Association, under the leadership of Mrs. W. D. Thomas. Mrs. Thomas delivered a most remarkable address on Child-Welfare eve, taking for her subject, "Our Inheritances." Mrs. Ella C. Porter also

spoke at this meeting, giving a history of the National Congress of Mothers, and the work it is doing for child welfare. She stressed the point that the Congress of Mothers works on the principle that it is far better to keep the child right than to bring him back and then compensate society for the damage he has done. The Fort Worth Child-Welfare meeting sent a liberal donation to the National Congress of Mothers.

Mrs. Porter, who has made a special feature of "Child-Welfare Day" in Texas, wishes to urge all states to give special attention to this feature of our work, as it is a most excellent way of bringing the local club and the mother body into closer touch with each other.

VERMONT

The Child-Welfare day, observed all over the country by meetings of parents and teachers, and collections for the purpose of furthering the propaganda of the Child-Welfare department of the Mother's Congress, was marked here by a gathering at the high school assembly hall, about 300 persons being present. It was the first time in Vermont that the day was thus observed, and the collection which was taken up totaled \$8. This money is sent to Washington, and comes back in the shape of literature preaching more intelligent care of children. The keynote of the gathering was a better knowledge of the child and the school by the parent, and of the home conditions of pupils by the teachers, and more live interest on the part of both. An interesting literary and musical program was carried out.

SUPERINTENDENT URGES COOPERATION.

Superintendent of Schools D. B. Locke presided, and made the address of welcome. He lauded the purposes for which the day was a holiday, and urged more real interest on the part of parents after the boy or girl leaves the home for school. He said that this was distinctly the age of the child, when the importance of intelligent treatment was beginning to be understood. It was understood better daily that cooperation between the various agencies which participate in the rearing of a boy or girl, as the home and school, was absolutely necessary, and friction between these two agents was to be deplored.

PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY

Mrs. Willis M. Ross read what is in effect the ritual of the Mothers' Congress, explaining the aims and purposes of the society, what it has already accomplished in other states, what it hopes to accomplish here. The other

speakers were three teachers who explained the courses of study pursued by children under their direction. These were Harold B. Adams, teacher of manual training, Miss Marion G. Lees, drawing teacher, and Miss A. Florence Goldsmith, teacher of domestic science.

WORK OF THE PUPILS SHOWN

Mr. Adams had with him samples of what is being accomplished by those who study under him, tables, chairs, music racks, cabinets and other articles of beauty and utility made entirely by the boys who take the course. Mr. Adams spoke warmly in favor of vocational training of this sort as he said it imbued the student not merely with a desire to earn money at his trade, but to do well that which he did do, and to have a broad

A Parent-Teacher Association has just been organized in Springfield with sixty-five members.

WASHINGTON

A Mothers' Circle has been organized in one of our grade schools in Wenatchee, and is taking up the Parents' Reading Course outlined by the Parent-Teacher Associations. Other Parent-Teacher Associations are doing it as part of their work. All of our circles take the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. Should any of the national officers come through Wenatchee on their way to or from Portland in May, we will be most happy to have them as our guests. We are on the Great Northern Railway, between Spokane and Seattle. "Wenatchee, the Home of the Big Red Apple and consecrated Mothers."

The Seattle Council in looking forward to meeting the national officers and delegates as they pass through Seattle en route to Portland. To meet the mothers who cannot go to Portland, this brief stop is made.

WISCONSIN

Kenosha Parent-Teacher Associations Celebrate Child Welfare Day—Mrs. Bright, National Vice-President, Speaker of the Day—Thrift taught in Columbus School—Annual State Convention Kenosha, in April, 29-30.

In Kenosha, the birthday of the Mothers' Congress was enthusiastically observed. The seven associations of the city held a joint meeting, and over 200 parents and teachers came together for an afternoon program at the high school.

Mrs. Orville T. Bright, Vice-President of the National Congress, spoke of the aims and purposes of the Congress, and outlined the work so clearly that the affiliation of our

circles will be easily accomplished, I feel. This was our banner meeting. The presidents of the different associations acted as hostesses and the members from all parts of the city were brought together for a very profitable meeting. The new Mothers Congress song was sung by a teachers' and mothers' quartette.

Each association in Kenosha shows larger memberships than ever before and the interest in parent-teacher work is increasing constantly. One pleasant feature of this work, for the school and home, is the exceeding interest shown by the teachers.

The Weiskopf-Gillette Association last month had one of the most successful meetings of its whole year. At the close of the program the meeting adjourned for dancing. The grand march was lead by the president and her husband and everyone joined in. All the old-time dances were danced and the parents and teachers became acquainted as never before. This association has been particularly fortunate in bringing the people of the district together, and many problems have been worked out. The desire of everyone in the association seems to be a desire to be helpful. This school club is going to celebrate its first birthday by joining the Congress.

The Columbus school is teaching the children to save. The parents heartily support the principal, Miss Keating, in her effort to teach the children thrift. Out of an enrollment of between five and six hundred, 360 pupils have a savings account. In a Christmas savings account into which each child puts a certain amount each week for 52 weeks the following shows the interest taken by the pupils in having a check come to them the week before Christmas. 191 pupils put in one cent a week, 10 pupils went in on the two-cent plan, 7 on the five-cent a week, and 7 pupils put in twenty-five cents a week. A total of 215 pupils proudly displayed checks with which to do their own Christmas shopping.

The Bain school association recently installed a dumb-waiter in the school building which will contribute much convenience at meetings since the food had to be carried up two flights of stairs.

The Durkee school association has held splendid meetings all the year, and through practical talks to the mothers has done much for the child in the way of hygiene. Through

a committee the needy children of the district have been clothed.

The Frank school has a large association of widawake parents and teachers and both are aspiring to make conditions the very best possible both in the school and in the home. A successful circulating library is one result of their active work.

A recent meeting of the Deming school combined a party with a paper, for the mothers. After the preliminary business, the mothers took their places around the kindergarten tables and helped themselves to coffee and sandwiches while a paper was read to them on the "Care of Children." The discussion was most spirited and many took part who had never done so before.

The High School Association has, through baking sales and contributions, been able to purchase for the school Rogers silver spoons, knives, and forks.

We are all looking forward to the benefits we shall derive from the State meeting which is to be held here the last week in April.

There is nothing that gives the help and inspiration to the Mothers Congress and the Parent-Teacher Association work that the Child Welfare Magazine does. I find nothing equals the help derived from the magazine.

CUBA

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs in Cuba has just issued a report in which the work of the Congress of Mothers of Cuba is published. A full history of the National Congress of Mothers in the United States is included and the manner in which the work was inaugurated in Cuba. This report explains all the important features of Cuban life, gives situation of the land for sale; the price and quality of soil. The Congress in Cuba has done much for the little children in that country.

LETTERS FROM SUBSCRIBERS

Your most excellent periodical is worthy of the support of all child lovers. Nothing that I have ever seen gives in such apt form or so readable and interesting manner those vital principles which should concern all people who have to do with children. We prize the Magazine for its most worthy motives as well as for what it actually does for us.

ARTHUR P. BRIGGS, *Principal*
Sheppard School,
Lynn, Mass.